GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2799
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2010
WORKING GROUP ON WATER RESOURCES
Munda Shri Arjun

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Working Group on water resources recommended creation of irrigation potential of 16 hectare (9mha through Major and Medium Projects and 7mha through Minor Projects) in the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the projected irrigation potential on yearly basis has been created so far separately by MI and MMI projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Jharkhand; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for creation of the recommended irrigation potential during the XIth Plan?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Working Group on Water Resources for the XI Five Year Plan(2007-2012) constituted by the Planning Commission, in its report recommended creation of irrigation potential of 16 million hectares (mha) including 9 mha through major & medium irrigation and 7 mha through minor irrigation projects comprising of 1.5 mha through surface water minor irrigation projects, 4.5 mha through ground water schemes and 1.0 mha through restoration of water bodies.

(c) & (d): During the first three years of XI plan i.e. during the period from 2007-08 to 2009-10, creation of irrigation potential of 5.51 mha has so far been reported by States. State-wise details, including that for Jharkhand, in respect of the irrigation potential created through major & medium irrigation projects and minor irrigation projects during the period from 2007-08 to 2009-10 is annexed. As per the report of the Planning Commission on Mid-Term Review of XI Plan, the target for creation of irrigation potential during XI Plan has been revised to 9.5 mha.

(e): Water being a State subject, planning and implementation of water resources projects are undertaken by respective State Governments. However, Government of India provides assistance to States under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) for early completion of the schemes. Central grant of about Rs. 19,990 crores has been released to States under AIBP during the period from 2007-08 to 2009-10. Further, about Rs.1190 crores has been released to States under AIBP during the current year 2010-11.